



Term 1 Week 5 Newsletter 2024

Dear Families,

We have continued to have a busy few weeks as Term 1 continues and the classes have each given a flavour of their learning - please see below. We have the Welcome Meetings next week which you are welcome to attend if you missed them in July. The sessions are a brief opportunity to meet your child's class teacher, see the classroom and to hear about upcoming topics etc. The PowerPoints will also be sent out (Year 1 - Year 6) tomorrow, for your reference.

We will hold our first Parents' Evenings on Thursday, 17th October 2024 (4.30pm - 7.30pm) and Tuesday, 22nd October (3.30pm - 6.30pm). Appointments will be bookable via Arbor and will go live tomorrow - I will send details of how to book in a separate email.

You are most welcome to come to our Harvest Festival on Wednesday, 23rd October at 9am where the children will sing a selection of Autumnal songs. If you are able to, please do send in/bring in any donations for the Lewes Foodbank either before Harvest Festival or on the day as we would like to be able to donate as much as possible. We are looking also forward to the FWR Halloween Discos on the

same day and you can purchase tickets via Arbor, Clubs. Thank you all for your support with both of these community events.

As part of our whole school value for Term 1 'well-rounded', we celebrate Ayelet who has achieved an incredible Distinction in her Grade 5 violin exam - this is an amazing achievement! We also congratulate River Juno for collecting litter on a beach cliff during her summer holiday in Spain. Thank you for helping to save the planet, one plastic cup at a time!

I would love to continue to celebrate examples of Western Road children being 'well-rounded' outside of school by sharing them with our community in the next newsletter. Examples could be all sorts of different activities including music, sports, charity work, caring for animals and our environment - the list is endless! Please do send any contributions you are happy to share to the School Office office@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk by Friday, 11th October. Thank you!

Reminder from Parent Forum for the whole school community:

Following on from our Parent Forum meeting at the end of last year, please could everyone work together to ensure the school site is as safe as possible by switching off car engines whilst waiting in the car park. The exhaust fumes while the cars idle affect the school site and impact on the children's wellbeing as they enter and leave the school, in addition to the adverse impact it has on the environment. Your support in this would be greatly appreciated.

Also raised in Parent Forum was safety of families as they enter the black gates, are on the field and coming through from Potter's Lane. There are a significant number of people (adults and children) using scooters and bikes which do help the environment. **It would be most helpful if you and your child could walk through the field area, rather than scooting/cycling, to help everyone stay safe.**

Whole school reminder: As we enjoy some sunny periods in our steps towards Autumn, please ensure your child continues to come to school in appropriate uniform and footwear (see below for full details). Children should come to school in their PE kit and trainers/plimsolls if they have PE that day or Forest School clothes (Year 3 on Tuesdays and Year 5 on Thursdays). Children should wear their usual black or blue school shoes/trainers at all other times. As the weather is so changeable at the moment, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm (preferably waterproof) coat, clearly labelled, each day, in addition to a sunhat. Wellies may also be needed depending upon the weather forecast. By having appropriate clothing in school, it helps everyone to enjoy the outdoors at break and lunchtimes, outdoor learning time and the Daily Mile. Please do let me know if you need any support in sourcing coats or wellies. Thank you.

Please remember that we a nut-free and sesame-free school due to children having severe allergies. It is imperative you do not send your child to school with any items that contain or may contain nuts and/or sesame seeds. Thank you.

Best wishes,

Irèna Wooler

Headteacher



1 - River Juno helping to keep the environment tidy and rubbish-free!

School Calendar



Items added or changed from the previous newsletter will be in italic:

Monday, 7th October

8.50am Welcome Meetings for Years 3 - 6 (repeats of those held in July)

Tuesday, 8th October

Year 3 Forest School

Thursday, 10th October

Year 5 Forest School

Year 4 Brass Band

Year 6 Safety In Action (9.30am - 11.30am to Plumpton)

World Mental Health Day (more information to follow)

Friday, 11th October

8.50am Welcome Meetings for Years 1 - 2 (repeats of those held in July)

Monday, 14th October

PC Parnell-Mace to visit EYFS

Tuesday, 15th October

Year 3 Forest School - final session

Wednesday, 16th October

9am Celebration Assembly

PM Year 1 to visit Southover Church

Thursday, 17th October

Year 5 Forest School - final session

Year 4 Brass Band

4.30pm - 7.30pm Parents' Evening (more details to follow)

Friday, 18th October

9am Parent Forum

Year 1 Superhero Day

Monday, 21st October

Year 2 trip to Brooklands Motor Museum

Tuesday, 22nd October

3.30pm - 6.30pm Parents' Evening (more details to follow)

Wednesday, 23rd October

9am Harvest Festival (more details to follow)

3.30pm - 4.30pm EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 FWR Halloween Disco - please note time change

4.45pm - 5.45pm Years 3 - 6 FWR Halloween Disco - please note time change

Tuesday, 5th November

No after-school clubs due to Lewes Bonfire Night celebrations

Wednesday, 6th November

INSET 3 - School closed (INSET day in middle of the week due to Lewes Bonfire Night celebrations on Tuesday, 5th November, no after-school clubs)

Thursday, 7th November

Year 4 Brass Band

Tuesday, 12th November

Flu vaccinations (see email sent via Arbor 03.10.2024)

Wednesday, 13th November

9am Years 1 - 3 Maths meeting for parents/carers

Thursday, 14th November

9am FWR AGM

Year 4 Brass Band

Thursday, 21st November

9am Autism In Schools - parent/carers forum

Year 4 Brass Band

Thursday, 28th November

Year 4 Brass Band - final session

Friday, 29th November

6.00pm - 8.30pm Artists and Makers preview night - Lewes Town Hall

Saturday, 30th November

10.00am - 5.00pm Artists and Makers event - Lewes Town Hall

Thursday, 5th December

2pm Sussex Downs Pantomime performance (Peter Pan)

Wednesday, 11th December

4pm School Choir performance at Glyndebourne (leave school at 12.15pm for 12.45pm arrival, more details to follow)

Friday, 20th December

1.15pm End of Term 2

Monday, 6th January 2025

INSET 4 - School closed

Monday, 2nd June 2025

INSET 5 - School closed

Tuesday, 22nd July 2025

1.15pm End of Term 6

Reminder - Attendance Update



In August 2024, the Government published the statutory guidance on attendance (see link below). As per the guidance, parents and carers are expected to:

- Ensure their child attends every day the school is open except when a statutory reason applies;
- Notify the school as soon as possible when their child has to be unexpectedly absent (e.g. sickness);
- Only request leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and do so in advance;
- Book any medical appointments around the school day where possible.

If you have any queries, please do let me know and you can read the guidance here:

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time - the gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. Any child arriving after this time must be signed in at the School Office, as per our health and safety and attendance policies.

Friends of Western Road

The Friends of Western Road (FWR) are holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 14th November at 9am in the School Hall. You are all welcome to come along to the meeting, find out more about what FWR and what they do to support the whole school (huge amounts!!!). There will be tea/coffee and CAKE and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any queries, please do email westernroad.friends@outlook.com

Artists and Makers Fair 2024 - message from Jane Morley



SAVE THE DATE!

Opening Night
Fri 29th Nov, 6pm-8.30pm

Main Fair
Sat 30th Nov, 9am-5pm

80+ stalls, gifts, art, food & fun
Lewes Town Hall

Find out more at –
www.artistsandmakersfair.com

 **artistsandmakers**

The incredible Artists and Makers Fair is back on 29th and 30th November! It is sure to be a wonderful event and raises much-needed funds for Western Road.

As always we're looking for volunteers both in the lead up and on the day. If you're interested in getting involved please email artistsandmakersfair@gmail.com

Thanks

Jane

Jane Morley

Events and Special Projects

07719 091 642

Reminder - Arbor - School Communication and Contacts



All emails go from the school are sent via Arbor. Please ensure you check your personal information carefully so we have up-to-date contact details, home addresses, medical information etc. Please ensure you keep this information up-to-date to ensure we are able to contact you in emergencies.

If you have any queries once you have logged in and checked your child's details, please do email me (head@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk). Thank you.

Reminder - Lewes Foodbank Donations



Thank you so much for all the donations given for Lewes Foodbank last academic year.

We continue to support the Foodbank this term and Debbie Twitchen has asked that we focus on collecting tinned products: meat, fish, tomatoes, vegetables and pulses. They also ask that we donate children's drinks and snacks too.

Please do bring any donations to the School Office and we will arrange for a delivery this term, along with our Harvest Festival donations (see above).

Thank you in advance.

Reminder - school uniform



Western Road Community Primary School's Uniform consists of:

- Navy school fleece with school logo (optional but these are very warm and ideal for Winter and Spring)
- *Navy school jumper with or without school logo or navy or mid-grey cardigan*
- White shirt/blouse with long or short sleeves with or without logo or
- White or navy blue polo shirt with or without school logo
- Mid-grey or navy trousers or smart shorts, or
- Mid-grey or navy skirts (or skorts), pinafore dresses or school summer dresses (blue/white check)
- White/navy/grey socks or tights
- ***Plain black or navy school shoes (or plain black or navy trainers with no logos); plain sandals in the Summer terms only.***
- Plain hair accessories (optional and in school colours preferably). **Long hair (past shoulder length) must be tied back.**

PE kit:

- White T-shirt or polo shirt with school logo (or plain)
- Grey or navy shorts or jogging bottoms (plain with no logos)
- Trainers or plimsolls

Please note, hoodies and jewellery (apart from a wristwatch when appropriate or stud earrings that can be taken out for PE) are not part of the school uniform and must not be worn in school.

The school also has school caps, rucksacks and book bags available. Please ensure all items of clothing are named including shoes or trainers.

Navy blue polo shirts, fleeces and sweatshirts with the school logo on are all available from Intersport http://www.gameforlife.co.uk/section.php/781/1/western_road_cp_school.

Second-hand items are regularly available at low cost at school fairs and events.

Reminder - Message from the Bursar, Sarah Clifford

Please ensure your ParentPay accounts for dinner money are cleared at the end of each week, or (ideally) are in credit by a small amount. **School dinners cost £2.97 per day for children in Years 3 - 6.**

Children under 5 are entitled to free school milk each day, given at morning snack time (this is in addition to milk given to children who have school lunches). If you would like your child to receive milk, either as they are under 5 or at an additional cost, please do visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/> for more information and to register your child.

If you think your child might be entitled to **Free School Meals** (regardless of their age) through the **Pupil Premium Grant**, please do look at <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals> for more information. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals and/or the Pupil Premium Grant, the school will receive additional funding to support them with their learning and enrichment activities.

From this term, we will put all school trips and school-run clubs (for example Sewing Club) through Arbor so please do make sure you are able to login. We will continue to use ParentPay for Chartwells payments.

Please do speak with me, Sarah Clifford, or email me bursar@westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk if you have any queries. Thank you.

Reminder - Bikes and scooters



Please ensure your child collects their bikes/scooters at the end of each school day. There are a number of bikes and scooters that have been in the bike shed for some time and I'm sure they are missed at home! If you would like to check the bike shed for any missing bike/scooter, please do speak with a member of staff at the white gate at drop-off or pick-up.

News from Silver Birch (EYFS)

We are all very proud of how the new Silver Birch class have settled in to school life. There is so much to learn when you start school and all the children are doing really well! The staff team are really impressed and hope the children feel very proud of themselves!

The children have been making new friends, talking about what makes them special and the important people in their lives. The children have loved engaging in role play, water play, painting, play-dough, PE, joining in with counting games and sounds, trying out the new trim trail and have begun learning to read and write! Please do see photos on Tapestry!

What a fantastic start... well done everyone!

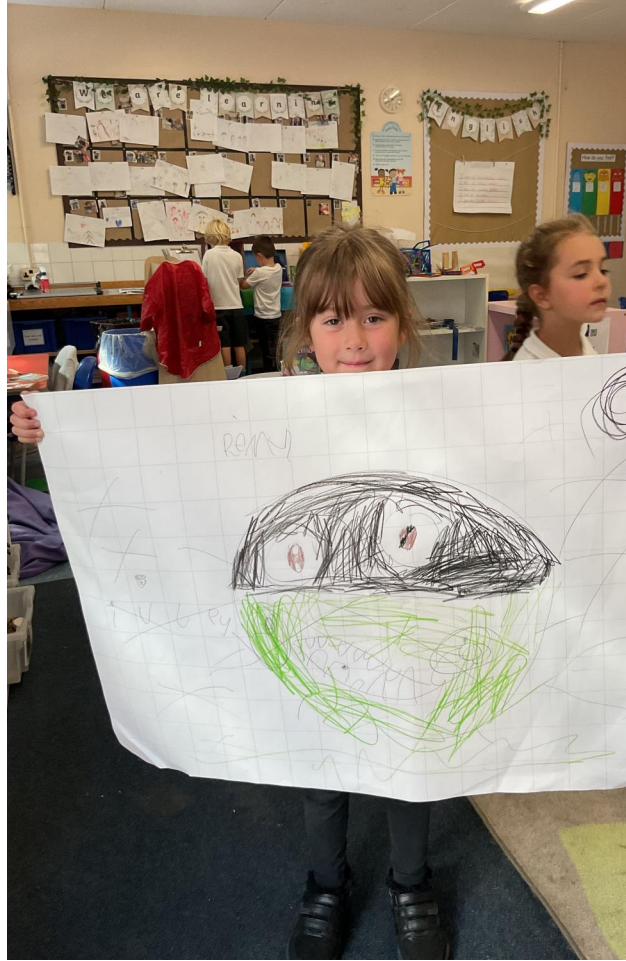
News from Elm Class (Year 1)



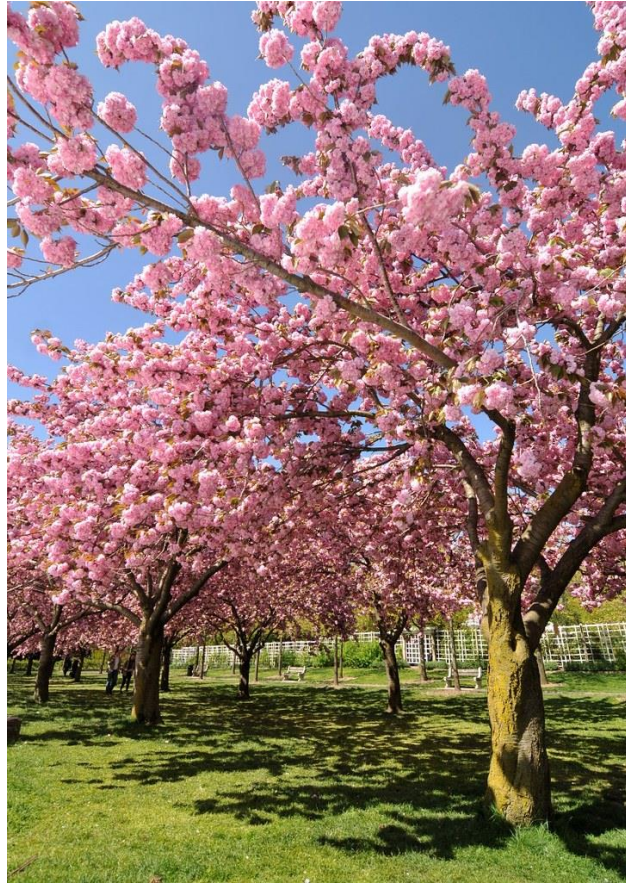
We have had a great start to our topic of Superheroes this term. The children have fully immersed themselves in the story of Supertato and were incredible detectives when the Evil Pea came into our classroom. The children made traps, posters and signs to try and find the pea and discourage him from returning. So far, he hasn't come back. We have begun our woodworking journey, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning how to use the tools, we will be developing their confidence in using them over the next few weeks and then have a project planned for them to complete.







News from Cherry Class (Year 2)



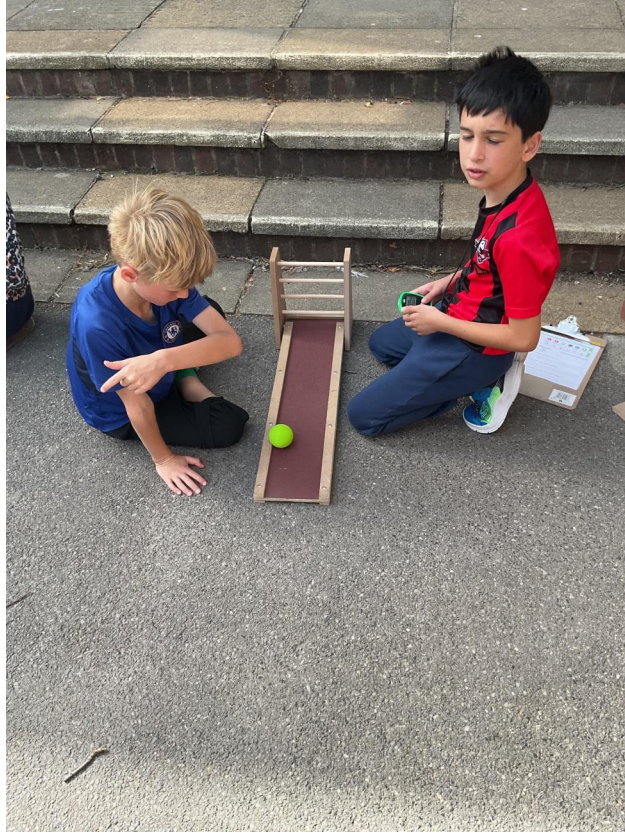
Year 2 have had a great start to the year. We have become inventors this term and the children have been busy in the environment researching, building and then evaluating various creations using blocks, mobilo, junk modelling etc. Everyone has been very engaged during our history lessons where we have looked at bicycles and cars throughout history! The difference between the first models to the ones we see today is amazing. We will be moving on to looking at The Wright Brothers and Amelia Earhart in the coming weeks, finding out how they have had an impact on how we live today.

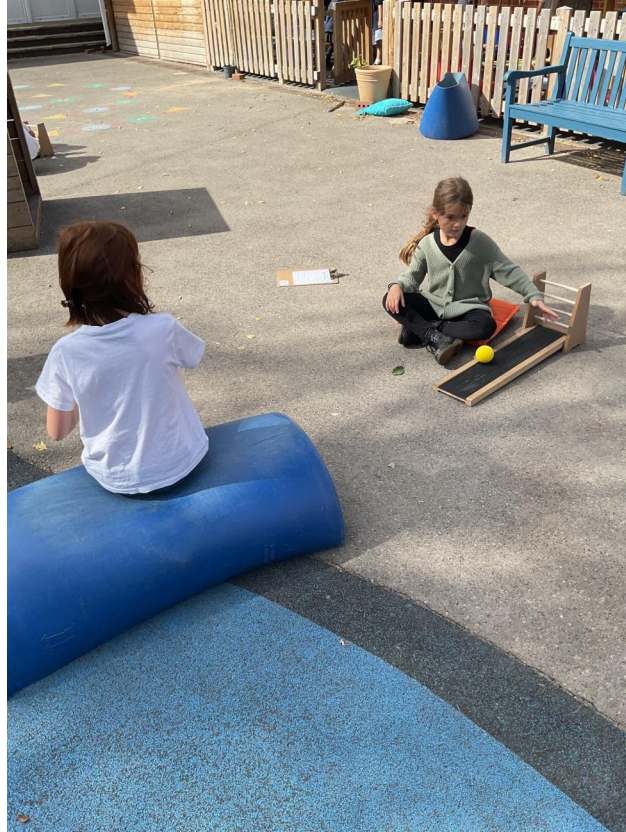
I have been particularly impressed with the class during our PE sessions where they have been developing their team work skills. We have been focusing on communication and giving each other kind words of encouragement. Photos of our first few weeks have gone on to Tapestry for you to have a look at!

News from Larch Class (Year 3)



Do you have the 'force'? Year 3s have started off the year learning about the different types of forces and how friction can affect the movement of an object. We have had fun exploring these concepts using various objects and making observations when they move across a surface. These investigations are hands-on and allow the children to think scientifically with the idea that the results should have repeatability. Using gravitational force, the children needed to test the speed of the ball moving down the slope 3 times to determine their result. Next, we will be testing various heights of the slope to conclude which material slows down the ball the most (has the most friction). Keep up the great work Year 3s!





News from Willow Class (Year 4)



We don't want to blow our own trumpet but the start of our year has been a hoot...mostly thanks to Brass Sparks. Every child in Willow class has been assigned a brass instrument and so far, we have learnt to assemble it and blow through the mouthpiece. We have also explored rhythm, pulse and tempo. We have even had the opportunity to play together as a band.

In history, we are enjoying learning about the Ancient Maya Civilisation. We were astonished to learn that archaeologists found cups and pots in Maya tombs which contained traces of a chocolate drink.

Immediately, we were transported back in time to become the Maya artisans who created the beautiful clay drinking vessels for the Maya rulers. We decorated them with both Maya and modern hieroglyphs and patterns. Here are some of our incredible artworks.



News from Elder Class (Year 5)

This term in Science we are investigating forces and this week we have been exploring how the force of gravity works on falling objects. We created moon surfaces from flour and chocolate powder, and dropped 'meteorites' down, to find out more about the craters that are formed on the moon's surface! Did you know that scientists believe there are craters on the moon that are as old as the Earth? In Year 5 we learned that the lack of atmosphere on the moon prevents the craters from being eroded away by wind or rain.

News from Oak Class (Year 6)



This term Year 6 have been learning about the legacy of the Ancient Greeks in History. This week, we learned all about medicine in Ancient Greece and how they used to believe that all illnesses were punishments from the Gods. We created short drama performances to show how Asclepian temples were used as healing centres but that some temples used to throw really ill people out because they

didn't want them to ruin their reputation! We also learned about Hippocrates and his role in making sure we know how to prevent diseases as well as curing them, though we were horrified to find out one of his ways of identifying symptoms was tasting people's wee!

Reminder - football kits (Thursdays)



Children who attend Albion In The Community after-school club on Thursdays should come to school in their usual school uniform and school shoes/plain black trainers. The football coaches arrive with plenty of time to supervise the children getting changed into their kits before the club starts at 3.15pm. Please ensure all kit (including boots, shin pads etc) are clearly named. Thank you.

Reminder: Child Protection and Safeguarding



At Western Road Community Primary, all staff take child protection and safeguarding children very seriously, both in person and online. All staff have been trained in Safeguarding and Child Protection. If you have any concerns about a child's well-being, bullying or e-safety, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs): Mrs Hamilton or Mrs Wooler.

During Assemblies, we have reminded all children that if they are worried or anxious at any time, they can talk to any trusted adult in school and who the DSLs are too.

As a school we are also part of Operation Encompass which is a police and education early information safeguarding partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse. Operation Encompass ensures that there is a simple telephone call or notification to a school's trained Designated Safeguarding Lead /Officer (known as key Adult) prior to the start of the next school day after an incident of police attended domestic abuse where there are children related to either of the adult parties involved. Information is shared with a school's Key Adult (Designated Safeguarding Lead or Officer) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident. This sharing of information enables appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child. To find out more information, please see: <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

Reminder: Health Service



We are pleased to be part of East Sussex Health Group. East Sussex Schools Health Service is a team of public health practitioners, led by school nurses who work with children, young people aged between four and 19 and their families. **They provide support and advice for a variety of physical, sexual and emotional health and wellbeing issues, and will refer to specialised services when needed.**

For full details about the service they offer please visit the website: www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/school-health/school-health-service-east-sussex/

How can you use the service?

- Contact the School Health One Point on **0300 123 4062**, available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5pm
- Make a referral online at
- Visit the School Health virtual drop-in, Mondays and Thursdays 10am to 3pm and 6pm to 9pm at <https://nhs.uk/east-sussex-school-health> They can offer support and advice to children, young people and families virtually, face to face or via the phone as well as brief interventions and packages of care where appropriate.

Western Road Community Primary School



Southover High Street,

Lewes,

East Sussex

BN7 1JB

01273 473013

<http://www.westernroad.e-sussex.sch.uk>

Headteacher: Irèna Wooler

Deputy Headteacher: Rea Hamilton

SENDCO: Suzy Bennett as Kerry Bedford is currently on maternity leave

Western Road Community Primary School is a nurturing, creative community where everyone can flourish.